

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-09 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

DODE-00 H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 FEA-01 /118 W

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R 171615Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 600

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, ETRD, OECD, FI, DA

SUBJ: FINNISH RESTRICTIONS AND OECD TRADE PLEDGE

REF: OECD PARIS 6722

1. DANISH BUSINESSMEN REPORT VIRTUAL STOP OF THEIR EXPORTS TO FINLAND FOLLOWING MARCH 12 IMPORT LEVY. GOVERNMENT WILL HOLD INTERAGENCY MEETING MARCH 18 TO DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINISTERS. FONOFF (ISAKSEN) TOLD US DENMARK MAY TAKE MILDLY REPROACHFUL ATTITUDE. HE FELT THAT, IN ANY CASE, THERE WAS NOT MUCH WHICH COULD BE DONE EXCEPT GO ON RECORD AS OPPOSING SUCH MOVES.

2. ISAKSEN SAID HIS FIRST CONCERN WAS PRECEDENT-SETTING POSSIBILITIES OF FINNISH MOVE BUT HE CONCLUDED THAT THIS IS UNLIKELY SINCE FINLAND HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUT OF THE MAINSTREAM OF EUROPEAN TRADE COOPERATION AND USUALLY LOOKED AT AS A "SPECIAL CASE." UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HE SAW NO LIKELIHOOD OF DENMARK BEING TEMPTED TO FOLLOW STEP; HOWEVER, HE WAS NOT GOING TO SPECULATE ON DANISH POSITION IN WORSTENED CIRCUMSTANCES. HE THOUGHT THAT DENMARK'S EC MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS WOULD LIKELY SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT CONSTRAINT SHOULD TEMPTATION TO GO THE FINNISH ROUTE BE STRONG.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT. DENMARK'S IMMEDIATE CONCERN IS THE LOSS IN EXPORTS TO BE EXPECTED FROM THE FINNISH MOVE. THESE HAVE BEEN GROWING RECENTLY AND, WHILE ACCOUNTING FOR LESS THAN 3 PERCENT OF TOTAL DANISH EXPORTS, ARE CONSIDERED IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF DENMARK'S CURRENTLY LARGE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICITS. DANISH EX-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PORTERS REPORT THAT MANY OF THEIR FINNISH CUSTOMERS HAVE INSTRUCTED THEM TO STOP ALL SHIPMENTS PENDING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPORT DEPOSIT SCHEME TO REPLACE THE IMPORT LEVY. DANES EXPECT THEY MUST EVENTUALLY SHARE IN THE COST OF THE DEPOSITS WITHOUT CORRESPONDING PRICE COMPENSATION BECAUSE OF TIGHT COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS. GIVEN THE PROFITS SQUEEZE TO WHICH THEY ARE

ALREADY SUBJECT, THE DANISH EXPORTERS ARE VERY  
UNHAPPY ABOUT CONSEQUENCES OF THE FINNISH MEASURES.  
DUNNIGAN

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